to review the price of LPG.

Visit of Deputy Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on External Affairs of Sweeden

1270 SHRI SHIV SHARAN VARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Deputy Chairman of the parliamentary Committee on External Affairs of Sweden visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of the bilateral issues that figured in his talks with the Indian leaders and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Bofors issue also figured in the talks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Mr. Par Granstedt a member of the Swedish Parliament visited India from Oct 31 to Nov 2, 1991.

(b) Mr. Granstedt had a meeting with the Deputy Chairman of the planning Commission with whom he discussed economic matters.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

L.P.G. CONNECTIONS

1271. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether sanction double bottle connections are sanctioned on priority basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c)whether Member of Parliament can sanction all the LPG connections in one month at a time?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). A second cylinder is released to LPG consumers in a planned manner subject to product availability and backlog in LPG supplies.

(c) As per policy 12 LPG connections are released every quarter on the recommendations of a Member of Parliament.

Setting up of oil refinery in Nagaland

1272. SHRI SOMJIBHAT DAMOR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an oil refinery in Nagaland; and

(b) if no, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANDARANAND): (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

Joint Venture offer for Paradip Refinery

1273. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether offer has been received by the Government for the joint venture with Indian Oil corporation to Implement the prosesed Paradip Refinery in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Some

parties have shown interest to participate in a refinery in Orissa.

Agricultural Production in Delhi

1274. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in agricultural production in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the percentage of population in Delhi dependent on agriculture; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the agricultural production in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) About 15 to 20 percent of population in Delhi is directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture.

(d) The steps taken to increase the agriculture production include cultivation of high yielding varieties of various crops, production of short duration crops like vegetables, multiple cropping, transfer of agriculture production technology to farmers and supply of quality inputs including seeds, fertilizers, pesticides etc.

Increase in Passport Fee

1275. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the passport fee;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be introduced; and

(c) the existing passport fee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reason for increasing the passport fee is the steep escalation in cost of providing passports and the inability of Government to provide better services, through increase in the number of Passport Offices and streamlining/computerisation of passport services due to financial constraints. It is proposed to increase the fee as early as possible.

(c) Fee for issue of a fresh India International Ordinary passport is Rs. 50/-.

Supply of Crude Oil by Kuwait

1276. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kuwait has offered to supply curde oil to India;

(b) if so, the response of the Government thereto;

(c) the terms and conditions on which crude oil is likely to be imported; and

(d) the other countries from which crude oil is imported?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(d) Crude oil is being imported under term contracts with National Oil Companies of USSR, Iran, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, UAE and through spot purchases.

Increase in import of crude oil

1277. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase